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**Testimony of Senator Jeff Plale
Senate Bill 144**

**Senate Committee on Health, Health Insurance, Privacy, Property Tax Relief, and Revenue
October 28, 2009**

Thank you, Senator Erpenbach and fellow members of the committee, for your consideration of Senate Bill 144.

Our intent with this bill is to facilitate crucial economic development for Wisconsin municipalities. This is increasingly important for communities struggling with the current difficult fiscal climate.

Currently in Wisconsin, when a municipality has multiple environmental remediation tax incremental districts, or ERTIDs, it is not possible to transfer the residual revenue from one district to another. In many cases, one ERTID may have cash flow and the other may not, as is the case for the City of Cudahy. In such situations, the municipality would like to be able to transfer the residual revenue from a donor ERTID to another recipient ERTID so that the recipient without the cash flow may have funding for any possible development. This bill allows the governing body of a municipality to adopt a resolution requesting that DOR allocate environmental remediation tax increments from an ERTID that has recovered all eligible costs to another ERTID created by that same governing body.

This legislation will greatly facilitate the ability for municipalities, such as the City of Cudahy, to move forward with important developments. The ERTIDs were established to help fund economic development. It makes sense that a municipality should be able to take advantage of the revenue still being generated from the donor ERTID to invest in another such project.

This bill would keep ERTID money working in the community while funding critical projects. I ask for your support for SB 144. Thank you.





Department of City Development

City Plan Commission
Historic Preservation Commission
Neighborhood Improvement
Development Corporation
Redevelopment Authority

Rocky Marcoux
Commissioner

Martha L. Brown
Deputy Commissioner

October 28, 2009

Senator Jon Erpenbach, Chair
Senate Committee on Health, Health Insurance, Privacy, Property Tax Relief & Revenue
State Capitol, Room 8 South
P. O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707-7882

Dear Senator Erpenbach:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 144, which would allow for a successful Environmental Remediation Tax Incremental District (ERTID) that has recouped all of its costs to donate its tax increments to another ERTID.

This bill will make ERTIDs more consistent with regular Tax Incremental Districts that already have the ability to donate increments from one TID to another. This, in turn, will give a municipality greater flexibility in financing expenses related to redeveloping brownfields.

Although the City of Milwaukee currently does not have any ERTIDs on the books, I believe that this legislation could be useful in the future as we continue to work to create jobs and generate our tax base through the redevelopment and remediation of brownfields. I thank you for your consideration, and ask for your support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Rocky Marcoux
Commissioner

c: Members of the Senate Committee on Health, Health Insurance, Privacy, Property Tax Relief & Revenue